

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No.: 09/373,272

Group Art Unit: 1635

Filing Date: August 12, 1999

Examiner: Epps, J.

Applicants: Austin-Phillips et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 09820.114

Title: **Transgenic Plants as Alternative Source of Lignocellulosic-Degrading Enzymes**

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**BOX: AF**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 21, 2002, Applicants request favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks. This Response After Final is filed within two months of the date of the Final Office Action.

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4-9-03***IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 16-22, 26, and 29-30, without prejudice on the merits to further prosecution of these claims in one or more continuing applications. Please amend Claims 27 and 28, and please add new Claims 31-40, as follows:

27. [AMENDED] A genetically recombinant tobacco or alfalfa plant which is stably transformed to contain and express a gene sequence which encodes *T. fusca* cellulase E2.
28. [AMENDED] A genetically recombinant tobacco or alfalfa plant which is stably transformed to contain and express a gene sequence which encodes *T. fusca* cellulase E3.